

# Richmond Dispatch.

SATURDAY.....APRIL 3, 1880.

To Amens: You can't without turning the board; and to do that is to evade the difficulty, not to meet and overcome it.

(For the Dispatch.)  
Insects on the Wheat-Cane and Egg-beet.

Knowing that the great "insecticides," Paris-green and London-purple, owed their virtues to arsenic (the former being arsenic of copper and the latter arsenic of zinc), I determined to try arsenic itself on a variety of "aphis" found in large numbers on my rye—on the wheat there were very few. To 1 part of arsenic 300 parts of gypsum were mixed and sown over the rye Friday last. On examination of the rye late Saturday, after the heavy rain, the insects were all gone. But on examination of rye adjoining, on which nothing was put, there were none found—in both cases being, I suppose, washed into the ground by the heavy rain, and probably many of them drowned. They are as yet very small, and soft and tender. This experiment shows how cautious we should be in tracing effects to their causes. The "aphis" on the rye was very active, with long red legs. They are generally of dull, lead color, and very inactive. Arsenic is much cheaper than the Paris-green or London-purple, and may answer the same purpose. The former is 10 cents per pound, the second 40 cents, and the latter 20 or 25 cents per pound. Paris-green is much used for the cotton-worm, and the London-purple is coming into general use as insect-destroyer. THOMAS POLLARD.

## Wonders of the Oyster.

At the meeting of the American Fish-Cultural Association in New York Wednesday evening on the propagation of the oyster, illustrated by charcoal sketches, was given by Dr. W. J. Brock, of Johns Hopkins University. "European naturalists are agreed," he said, "that the oysters which are found in European waters hatch their eggs and carry their young for a certain time within the shell. This may be true, but in that case they are different from the American oyster. Last summer I made a series of experiments at Cresfeld, an oyster town in Maryland, to find out the method of propagation and to attempt the impregnation of eggs artificially. The result was that it was found that American oysters do not breed their young within the shell, and that the eggs can be fertilized artificially in the same manner as those of the fish. There is no way to discover the male from the female oyster except by the use of the microscope. The eggs of the oyster are infestinal in size, of different, irregular shapes, and have a clear spot in the centre."

An average oyster contains from six to nine million eggs, and one of a larger size may contain as many as fifty millions. The plan pursued in fertilizing the eggs is to chop the male and female oysters together, and thus the fluids are mixed and the impregnation is made complete. Immediately the process of development begins, and goes on so rapidly that a change can be noted every fifteen seconds. In a very few seconds the embryo is sufficiently formed to swim in the water. The shells at first are very small, and are not adjacent to each other. They grow very rapidly, closing down over the sides, and finally unite and form the hinge. In the short time of twenty-four hours the young oyster is able to take food, and from three days to a week it attains perfect form. During its early life it is a swimming animal.

"At one time I had as many as a half million of embryonic oysters in a watch crystal—at a certain stage of development. An oyster is able to reproduce its species after attaining a year's growth, and it is marketable at the age of three years. These experiments were so complete and successful that it left no doubt in my mind that oysters can be propagated artificially with success."

In answer to the question why oysters were not fit for use during the months that do not contain the letter "r," the Professor replied that they were good when taken fresh from the water. But during the spawning season they become easily spoiled on account of the breaking of the eggs in handling them.

THOUSANDS annually from some form of kidney disease that might have been prevented by a timely use of Hop Bitters.

## FOLY RENT.

FOR RENT, NICE BRICK TENEMENT, NO. 602 Marshall street, between Eighth and Ninth; twelve rooms; kitchen, stable, and all conveniences.

ONE OF THESE DESIRABLE JONES'-BROWNE TENEMENTS, Grace or Main and Jefferson streets; ten rooms, kitchen, and all conveniences.

BRICK TENEMENT, No. 812 north Twelfth street; between Broad and Marshall streets; containing ten rooms, kitchen, &c.

DETACHED BRICK DWELLING, on Eighteenth between Main and Franklin streets; ten rooms and kitchen, &c.

NICE DETACHED BRICK DWELLING, No. 2615 Franklin street; six rooms, kitchen, gas, water, &c.

BRICK TENEMENT, No. 2815 Marshall street, between Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth streets; six rooms and all conveniences.

BRICK TENEMENT, No. 2113 Grace street; between Main and Jefferson streets; ten rooms, &c.

Please call and look at our list. Apply to ROBERT B. LYNE,

1212 Main street,

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FOR RENT, GRACE-STREET HOUSES.

300, corner Third and Grace streets; 7 rooms, 601, corner Grace and Henry streets; 10 rooms, Northern corner Adams and Grace streets; 10 rooms.

600, corner Fifth and Cary streets; 10 rooms, No. 1 east Marshall street; 5 rooms.

SMALL BRICK TENEMENT, No. 13 north Twelfth street; between Main and Franklin streets; rooms, &c.

DETACHED BRICK DWELLING, on Eighteenth between Broad and Grace streets; ten rooms and kitchen, &c.

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